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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/572,791	03/21/2006	Atsushi Mae	SON-3402	3409
23353	7590	10/08/2009	EXAMINER	
RADER FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC			CHEVALIER, ROBERT	
LION BUILDING				
1233 20TH STREET N.W., SUITE 501			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20036			2621	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/572,791	MAE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	ROBERT CHEVALIER	2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 July 2009.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 21 March 2006 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-19 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the submitted prior art of Willis et al (WO 01/35650 A1) in view of either Aridome (P.N. 2004/0126097) or Lane et al (P.N. 5,377,051).

Willis et al discloses a video recording/reproducing apparatus that shows substantially the same limitations recited in claims 1, 5-7, including the feature of

dividing video data stream into data segments (See Willis et al's Figure 3), and the feature of multiplexing additional data with the data segment and recording the same onto the data recording medium as specified in the present claims 1, 5-7. (See Willis et al's Figure 3, and Figure 1, components 154, 106).

Willis et al fails to specifically disclose the feature of generating additional information regarding the relationship between the video data contained in the data segment and the video data contained in another data segment or additional information regarding characteristics of the video data contained in each data segment as specified in the present claims 1, and 5-7.

It is noted that both Aridome and Lane et al do disclose the feature of generating additional information regarding the relationship between the video data contained in the data segment and the video data contained in another data segment or additional information regarding characteristics of the video data contained in each data segment as specified in the present claims 1, and 5-7. (See the ARI data shown in Aridome's Figures 5-6, and Figure 14C, and further, see Lane et al's column 51, lines 1-9).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the Willis et al's apparatus wherein the multiplexing means for multiplexing additional data with the data segment as specified thereof would incorporate the capability of generating additional information regarding the relationship between the video data contained in the data segment and the video data contained in another data segment or additional information regarding characteristics of the video data contained in each data segment as specified in either Aridome or Lane et al. The motivation is to increase the reliability of the video

data during reproduction operation as suggested in the cited references of Aridome and Lane et al.

With regard to claims 2, 9, the feature of the additional information comprising at least one piece of decode information indicating whether to use video data contained in another data segment when the video data contained in one data segment is decoded, reproduction order information relating to a reproduction order of the video data that is contained in the data segment and is to be accessed when the video stream is randomly accessed, video data amount information regarding the amount of video data contained in the video segment, and scanning method information regarding a scanning method of the video data contained in the data segment as specified thereof is present in Willis et al. (See Willis et al's page 2, line 22, to page 3, line 16, Aridome's Figure 14C, and Lane et al's column 51, lines 1-9).

With regard to claims 3, 10, the feature of the video stream being encoded in compliance with MPEG and the data segment is a VOBU as specified thereof is present in Willis et al. (See Willis et al's Figure 3).

With regard to claims 4, 14, the feature of the additional information comprising at least one piece of information equivalent to a broken link flag, information regarding a reproduction order of I-pictures in the VOBU, the number of frames of video to be reproduced by the VOBU, the number of pages of video data contained in the VOBU, and information equivalent to a progressive frame flag as specified thereof is present in Willis et al. (See Willis et al's Figures 7-9).

With regard to claims 8, 11, 17-19, the feature of controlling reproducing of the video data based on additional information contained in the read additional data as specified thereof is present in Willis et al. (See Willis et al's Figure 1, components 122, 178, 174, 172, 176, and see, Lane et al's column 51, lines 1-9).

With regard to claim 12, the feature of the video stream being a video stream that has been encoded in compliance with MPEG2, the data segment being a VOBU, and the reproduction order information being information regarding the reproduction order of I-Pictures in the VOBU as specified thereof is present in Willis et al. (See Willis et al's Figure 3, and further, see Willis et al's Figures 7-9).

With regard to claim 13, the feature of the additional information comprising video data amount information regarding the amount of video data contained in the data segment, and the feature of managing the number of frames of video reproduced from the video stream, or the number of pages of video data contained in the video stream based on the video data amount information as specified thereof is present in Willis et al. (Willis et al's claim 24, and Aridome's Figure 14C).

With regard to claims 15-16, the feature of correcting output signal responsive to the video data as specified thereof is present in Willis et al. (See Willis et al's Figure 1, component 130).

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ROBERT CHEVALIER whose telephone number is

(571)272-7374. The examiner can normally be reached on MM-F (9:00-6:30), second Monday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/ROBERT CHEVALIER/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2621
October 6, 2009.